



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

CALENDAR ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday, October 30, 2014 T. C. Passios Building- 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Calendar Advisory Committee

Superintendent

Colleen Shapiro – School Committee
Ronald Hyatt – SAC LHS
Ashley Wheeler-SAC LHS- absent
Gary Asher – Former Lunenburg Family Practice, Health Advisory Committee
Brandon Kibbe – SAC LPS
Amanda Waltz – Parent
Lou Bettencourt – Parent
Heather Sroka – School Committee
Ami Powers – SAC THMS
Katie McGuire- SAC LHS- absent

Loxi Jo Calmes

* Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:17pm.

* Advisory Organization-Election of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary: Brandon Kibbe moved a motion to elect Colleen Shapiro Chair, Heather Sroka Vice Chair and Ami Powers Secretary. Lou Bettencourt and Dr. Gary Asher second the motion, all in favor vote.

* Review & Discussion of Surrounding School Calendars: only two districts started after Labor Day. Bulk of Christmas breaks start on 12/24. No districts do a March vacation, in lieu of Feb/Apr

* Review & Discussion of Major Events in 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 Calendars & Survey Update:

Sports director advised that generally they still have practice and games during vacation weeks and Holiday weeks.

Discuss arose that it is generally staff driven the preferences of Feb/Apr vacation week. February vacation week is good if we have a bad season of Flu in February, however shouldn't be used as a reason because Flu is unpredictable.

Brandon Kibbe brought up the issues of all the disruptions. Interrupts learning opportunities with multiple half days, snow days, days off. Staff feels that snow days (unanticipated breaks) are the only days that really disrupt learning.

Discussion of survey - try to get as many people as possible to take the survey. Superintendent Calmes will try to send the results in a spreadsheet form before our next meeting.

Issue - Strong need to have school end as early in June 2016 as possible and start as late as we can in September due to move into new school.

Abatement of asbestos in High school is due to start July 1, 2016. This will take approximately 3 weeks. Staff needs time to clean out High School before this starts. Looking how we can end school early in June. Student parking was also a factor - to have allowed for time in summer to prep parking areas, or look for alternate places.

2015 - 2016 school calendar is unique because Labor Day is so late.

Discussion on how to save days during the year. Superintendent Calmes felt that staff will not support a March break, due to MCAS. May compromise performance. We will try to get data from other areas of the country that do a testing and if vacation weeks occur around it.

Possible ideas to have PD days before first day and after last. Could be helpful to teachers to have a few days to prep before students and also with having one after last day, more opportunity to clean out and move.

Calendar Advisory Committee suggests the following calendar for school year 2015 - 2016. Superintendent Calmes said good starting point and will bring to other Calendar Committee made up of Staff to see their thoughts.

PD Day August 27, 28

Students start August 31 and go whole week *22 days in September

*21 days in October

Nov 25th full day. Nov 27th off for Thanksgiving Holiday. *18 days in November

Dec 23 full day, off on Dec 24 for Christmas Break *17 days in December

Jan 4th students return back *19 days in January

Feb 12th and 15th off for long weekend, students resume back to school for typical Feb break (2/16 - 2/19) *19 days in Feb

No days off in March *23 days in March

Typical April Vacation week 4/19 - 4/22. *16 days in April

No days off in May (other than Memorial Day) *21 days in May

180 school day would bring us to June 6th, with no snow days. *4 days in June

Things to consider. Last possible day to be at school should be June 10 / June 17 w/ snow days. The earlier the better though.

Next meeting we will discuss feedback from other committee and their thoughts on this attempt.

Next meeting we need to approve minutes from first meeting and see if we get census data back.

* Public Comment: No public comment at this meeting. Next meeting in Thursday Nov 13th at 7:15pm.

* Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:02pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ami Powers